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RHYMNEY



ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER

OF HEALTH

AND

SANITARY INSPECTOR

FOR

THE YEAR 1950



POWELL, PRINTERS, RHYMNEY.

Rhymney Urban District Council.



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Medical Officer of Health.*



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Rhymney

Urban District Council

Chairman (1950)	Councillor GOMER JONES, J.P.
Vice-Chairman (1950)	...	...	...	Councillor J. J. WILLIAMS
Clerk and Accountant to the Council				R. T. LEWIS, Esq., A.C.I.S.

MEMBERS :

Upper Ward

Councillor John Jones
Councillor Gomer Jones
Councillor P. E. Jones
Councillor R. I. Doyle

Middle Ward

Councillor W. T. Powell
Councillor Norman Gilbert
Councillor D. Thomas

Lower Ward

Councillor J. J. Williams
Councillor D. A. Moseley
Councillor W. H. Barter

Abertysswg Ward

Alderman W. J. Greene, J.P.
Councillor Miss Megan Roach, J.P.
Councillor Roger Williams.

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE LOCAL AUTHORITY

Medical Officer of Health—Part-time: (Appointment terminated 31st Jan. 1950) and re-appointed 15th October, 1950).

Dr. I. L. R. EVANS, M.B.E., B.SC., M.B., B.CH.

Medical Officer of Health—Whole-time: (from 1st Feb. 1950 to 14th October, 1950).

Dr. MARGARET M. McDOWALL, M.B., B.S., D.T.M. & H., D.P.H., M.R.C.O.G.

Sanitary Inspector, etc.—Whole-time.

G. R. DAVIES, M.R. SAN.I., M.S.I.A.

Certified Sanitary Inspector, The Royal Institute.

Certified Inspector of Meat and Other Foods, The Royal Sanitary Institute.

*To the Chairman, Vice-Chairman and Members of the
Rhymney Urban District Council.*

Mr. Chairman and Members,

We beg to submit the Annual Report on the vital statistics and Sanitary conditions of your district for the year 1950. This has been prepared on the lines of that for 1949, as indicated in Circular 2/50 (Wales), dated 25th January, 1950, and Circular 112/50 (Wales) dated 6th December, 1950, issued by the Welsh Board of Health.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

The District is situated at the top of the Rhymney Valley, in the north-west corner of Monmouthshire, a small portion of the upper end being in the southern extremity of the County of Breconshire. On the west it is separated from Glamorgan and the Urban District of Gellygaer by the River Rhymney ; on the east by the Tysswg Brook and the Urban District of Tredegar ; on the north by Breconshire, and on the south by the Urban District of Bedwellty. It covers an area of 2,648 acres. For all administrative purposes, the whole area is included in the County of Monmouthshire.

Coalmining is the chief industry, and many of the workmen are employed in the collieries situated outside the Urban area. There are no pit-head baths for the workmen at any colliery in this district.

There are quite a number of partially disabled colliery workers living in the area who could undertake other light employment, if available. Concern over the matter has been stressed by the Council from time to time.

Clothing Factory. Production commenced towards the end of 1948. As usual in this type of factory, it is female labour that is chiefly employed. Extensions to the factory were commenced during 1950.

Rhymney Engineering Works. Although the only means of road transport to and from this factory is through our district, it is actually situated in the Urban District of Gellygaer.

Population at Census, 1921	...	...	11,690
Population at Census, 1931	...	...	10,506
Population at Census, 1951	...	...	9,134

Estimated resident population for 1950 as supplied by the Registrar General, and upon which statistics are based, is 9,070. This is 67 less than the estimated figure for 1949.

Area of the District in Acres	...	2,647.94
Rateable Value (31st March, 1950)	...	£28,519
Penny Rate Product (31st March, 1950)		£103 3 11

LIVE BIRTHS.

	<i>Total.</i>	<i>Males.</i>	<i>Female.</i>		
Legitimate	171	90	81	Birth-rate per 1,000 of the	
Illegitimate	9	7	2	Population	19.8

STILL BIRTHS.

	<i>Total.</i>	<i>Males.</i>	<i>Females.</i>		
Legitimate	5	1	4	Rate per 1,000 total live and	
Illegitimate	—	—	—	still-births	27.03

The Still Birth Rate per 1,000 of the Population is 0.55 ; for England and Wales, 0.37 ; and for Monmouthshire, 0.58.

DEATHS.

	<i>Total.</i>	<i>Males.</i>	<i>Females.</i>
Death rate per 1,000 of the	114	72	42
Population	...	12.5	

Number of women dying in or in consequence of childbirth : Nil.

It is satisfactory to note that out of a total of 180 live and 5 still-births, there were no deaths as a result of childbirth.

	<i>Deaths.</i>	<i>Rate per 1,000 total live and Still-births.</i>
Puerperal Sepsis	... Nil.	Nil.
Other Maternal Causes	Nil.	Nil.
TOTAL	... Nil.	Nil.

Death Rate for Infants under one year of age :					
Legitimate Infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	...	...	...	...	58.4
Illegitimate Infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births	...	...	...	...	222.2
All Infants per 1,000 live births	...	...	...	...	66.6
There were 12 deaths under one year (10 legitimate) and 2 illegitimate					
Deaths from Measles (all ages)	...	...	...	...	—
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)	...	...	...	...
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	...	...	...	...
Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	...	...	...	...	13
Deaths from Heart Diseases	...	...	...	...	13
Particulars of unusual or excessive mortality during the year ...					
	...	...	...	...	None

With the exception of the deaths under one year of age, our rates compare favourably with those for England and Wales, and the County. Our infantile death rate is very unsatisfactory.

STATISTICS FOR ENGLAND AND WALES, ETC., 1950.

	<i>Death Rate (all causes).</i>	<i>Live Birth Rate per 1,000 total Population.</i>	<i>Total Deaths under 1 year (Rate per 1,000 Live births)</i>
England & Wales ...	11.6	15.8	29.8
Monmouthshire ...	12.3	17.4	39.8
Rhymney ...	12.5	19.8	66.6

The death rate at all ages is .9 more than that for England and Wales, and .2 more than that for Monmouthshire (County), and the rate for deaths under one year of age is 36.8 more than the rate for England and Wales, and 26.8 more than the rate for the County. The birth-rate is 4.0 above that for England and Wales, and 2.4 above that of the County.

As will be noted, the infantile death rate is 16.6 above that for 1949.

For 1949 the Death Rate (all ages) was 14.3, the Birth Rate 17.5, and the Infantile Rate 50.0.

HOSPITALS. The National Health Service Act, 1946, lays on the Minister of Health the duty of providing hospital and specialist services.

The Minister discharges this duty principally through Regional Hospital Boards, acting as his agents. For the control and management (*i.e.* for the whole business of day to day administration) of groups of hospitals, Hospital Management Committees in turn act as agents of the Regional Boards.

The Rhymney and Sirhowy Hospital Management Committee is responsible for the control and management of eleven hospitals and two chest clinics.

ADMISSION OF PATIENTS TO HOSPITAL.

GENERAL MEDICAL AND SURGICAL CONDITIONS. The family doctor (1) arranges admission of the acute emergency direct with the hospital, and (2) refers the non-urgent case to be seen as an out-patient. If considered necessary, hospitals outside the group can also be used by arrangement, as in the NEW SERVICE, there are no territorial boundaries.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES. Arrangements for admission are made through the Local Authority Health Department as considered necessary.

MATERNITY. Cases are admitted by direct arrangements between the Ante-Natal Clinic doctor and the County Infirmary.

TUBERCULOSIS. Reference by the family doctor of patients to the Chest Specialists in attendance at the Chest Clinics for opinion, investigation, or treatment, continues as in the past. Admissions to Sanatoria or Hospital are arranged through the Tuberculosis Division of the Welsh Regional Board on direct recommendation of the Chest Physician.

SPECIALIST SERVICE ON THE HOME. The family doctor seeks a specialist for domicilliary service only if the patient is too ill to attend at the hospital.

AMBULANCE SERVICE. In this area, the Mon. County Council are statutorily responsible for the provision of an adequate service of ambulances and transport for all National Health purposes, including the transport of patients to and from hospital, and inter-hospital transfers.

CONVALESCENT TREATMENT. For the purpose of the National Health Service Act, Convalescence can be divided into two classes. Firstly, there is convalescence which is a continuation and an integral part of hospital treatment, *i.e.*, medical and nursing care is essential ; this type of convalescence is the responsibility of the Hospital Management Committee.

Secondly, there is convalescence where medical and nursing care is *not* required and where the patient only needs a rest holiday in suitable surroundings ; the Hospital Management Committee is not empowered to provide this type of convalescence, but it *may* be provided by the Local Health Authority (Mon. C.C. for this area) under Section 28 of the National Health Act.

SPA TREATMENT. This form of treatment will be provided on prescription by the patient's doctor, supplemented by specialist recommendation. The procedure requires the hospital matron to arrange for out-patient specialist examination on production by the patient of a medical certificate suggesting Spa treatment. Admission is then arranged (via the Hospital Management Committee) by the Regional Hospital Board to Spa Centres, which at the moment are outside the Welsh Region.

SUPPLIES OF DIPHTHERIA ANTI-TOXIN. Hospitals for infectious diseases hold stocks of diphtheria anti-toxin and are prepared to supply it to doctors on demand, for emergency use. As these hospitals are not readily accessible, small stocks are also held (for this area) at the Redwood Memorial Hospital.

SUPPLY OF VACCINES, SERA, ETC. Stocks of vaccine, lymph and diphtheria prophylactic are being held at laboratories of the Public Health Laboratory Service for *issue* free of charge to the Medical Officer of Health, or to practitioners taking part in Local Health Authorities' arrangements under Section 26 of the National Health Service Act.

Certain other materials of this kind, not readily obtainable at present from trade sources, will also be available through the Public Health Laboratory Service, *e.g.* measles serum, typhus vaccine, rabies vaccine, botulinum anti-toxin, anti-anthrax serum and anti-snake venom.

CENTRAL ADMINISTRATION. The Central Administration Offices of the Hospital Management Committee are based at Caerphilly District Miners' Hospital, St. Martin's Road, Caerphilly.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

WATER SUPPLY. The conditions remain the same as at the end of last year, the supply is ample and of good quality. The Rhymney Urban District Council is a contributory authority to the Rhymney Valley Water Board, with representation thereon. Forty-six houses at Princetown and Rhymney Bridge are supplied by the Tredegar Urban District Council.

Source A. Gathering ground at Blaen Rhymney ; this empties into (1) Old Reservoir, 9,000,000 gallons, (2) New Reservoir, 46,000,000 gallons ; the property of the Rhymney Valley Water Board.

Source B. From the Taf Fechan Reservoir, the property of the Taff Fechan Supply Board. Capacity, 350,000,000 gallons.

Springs (2 outlying farmhouses, and 11 isolated cottages). On the whole, these have been fairly successful throughout the year.

Reports upon Water Samples, etc.										
						Number satisfactory		Number unsatisfactory		
1.	(a)	Bacteriological examination of raw water				1		Nil.		
	(b)	Bacteriological examination of treated								
		water	...	...	...	...	7	5	
	(c)	Chemical Analyses				...	...	...	Nil.
2.	(a)	Plumbo Solvent Action				...	...	None.	
	(b)	Details of contamination by lead, pre-								
		cautions taken, and number and re-								
		sults of analyses				...	...	...	No plumbo solvency
3.	(a)	Number of houses supplied from public								
		water mains :								
	(i)	Direct to the houses				...	...	...	2,462
	(ii)	By means of stand-pipes				...	...	...	30
	(b)	Approximate population supplied from public water mains :								
	(i)	Direct to the houses				...	...	...	8,900
	(ii)	By means of stand-pipes				...	...	...	100
4.	Action in respect of any form of contamination						No contamination			
							evident.			

Analysis results which have coliform content of one or over, are now defined as unsatisfactory. The chlorination apparatus has been duplicated and improved, and adequate chlorination is maintained at all times.

DRAINAGE, SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL. With the exception of minor improvement and the clearing of blockages, the sewers have, on the whole, worked satisfactorily throughout the year. The Rhymney Urban District Council is a contributory authority to the Rhymney Valley Sewerage Board, with representatives thereon.

CLOSET ACCOMMODATION. With the exception of outlying houses and isolated farmhouses, the whole district is served by the water carriage system. A scheme was prepared during 1939, for the laying of a sewer at Princetown and Rhymney Bridge (50 houses) and for the conversion of the privies and pail closets to water-closets, but owing to the outbreak of war, an enquiry arranged by the Ministry had to be abandoned. It is hoped that it will be possible to proceed with this scheme at an early date.

PUBLIC LAVATORIES, ETC. With the exception of obsolete urinals, there is no provision throughout the district. It is hoped that the erection of at least one centrally situated convenience (to serve both sexes) will take place during 1951.

COLLECTION OF HOUSE REFUSE AND STREET CLEANSING. This service is carried out by direct labour, and under the supervision of the Sanitary Inspector. Since 1st April, 1946, the District Council have also been responsible for the cleansing of Trunk, Class 1 and Class 2 Roads, and for the surface water gullies on these roads. Disposal of refuse takes place upon open tips.

The salvage scheme terminated at the end of June, 1949.

FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS, SHOPS AND OFFICES. Sanitary conveniences have been provided in all cases where necessary. Attention is also given to Section 10 (1) (b) (Temperature).

ERADICATION OF BED BUGS. Six houses (all private) were found to be infested, and the whole premises treated. Premises were also treated for either infestation by fleas, ants, crickets or beetles.

The methods adopted are :

(1) Cimex Patent Block Disinfestators, and then spraying with Insecticide.

(2) Removal of skirting boards, etc., and using blow-lamp.

The work of disinfestation is carried out by the Local Authority. Insecticides are also given (free) to tenants.

The undermentioned insecticides and fumigants are used :

Zaldecide, Pyagra, Cimex, Solution "B," Cooper's Bed Bug Spray, Killgercide, etc.

Thirty houses infested with either ants, crickets or beetles, were also treated.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA.

(120 Intimation Notices or Letters and 98 Statutory Notices were served).

Nuisances Detected or Repairs Required.

	<i>Total.</i>
(1) Defective and Choked W.C. Drains	12
(2) Provide or Rebuild W.C. or Privy Accommodation ...	2
(3) To open and repair slop drains	3
(4) To drain, flush, cleanse or repair urinals	—
(5) To provide or repair cisterns in W.C.s	3
(6) To pave and repair back-yard or forecourt	4
(7) Throwing of house refuse, etc. ... Circular letters distributed	
(8) To cleanse cesspools	—
(9) To cleanse dwelling-houses and bedding	2
(10) To provide and repair rainwater troughing and downspouts	27
(11) To repair drain vent or soil pipes	—
(12) To limewash pig or chicken cot (or remove)	1
(13) To prevent overcrowding	—
(14) To prevent pollution of streams or rivers	1
(15) To repair defective house roofs causing dampness ...	45
(16) To provide sinks in houses	—
(17) To provide or repair coal buildings	3
(18) To cleanse water courses	2
(19) To repair W.C. walls, roofs, doors and floors	26
(20) To provide new W.C. pans	4
(21) To provide new ovens	6
(22) To repair privies or provide new pails	—
(23) To provide or repair pantries	13
(24) To repair fireplaces	10
(25) To repair or take down dangerous chimney stacks and rebuild	13
(26) To replaster walls	23
(27) To rebuild boundary or retaining walls	4
(28) To repair house floors	4
(29) To repair broken ceilings	18
(30) To provide slop drains	—
(31) Defective condition of main walls	20
(32) Defective condition of house doors or windows	60
(33) Other nuisances	18

Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949.—Rats and Mice.

The methods used, and which have proved to be most successful, are those advocated by the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, who make a grant to the Council of 50 per cent. of the cost of a large part of the work. The whole sewerage system of the district was treated twice during the year. New sewers laid to serve new houses were found to be free from rats. Treatments were also carried out at dwelling-houses, business premises, refuse tips and river banks, etc.

The work is carried out under the supervision of the Sanitary Inspector, who is helped by an Assistant Rodent Officer.

Co-operation and advice given by Mr. R. Davies, Divisional Rodent Officer, and also by the Divisional Rodent Inspector, is appreciated.

HOUSING.

Fifty aluminium bungalows were tenanted during 1947 ; 52 steel houses were tenanted during 1948 ; 30 traditional type houses were tenanted during 1949, and 45 traditional type houses were tenanted during 1950. The other 5 traditional type houses were tenanted early in 1951, and this completed the provision of 80 traditional type houses for which the Penydre Site was prepared.

During the latter part of 1950, the preparation of the " Ty Coch Site " was commenced, and where it is proposed to erect 6 four-bedroomed traditional type houses ; 58 three bedroomed traditional type houses ; 24 two-bedroomed traditional type houses ; 58 three-bedroomed traditional type houses ; 24 two-bedroomed traditional type houses ; 6 bungalows for aged people, and 6 shops. Contracts have been accepted for the erection of the first 40 dwellings.

In spite of the progress made during the post-war years in the provision of new dwellings, the " Housing Problem " remains the most important matter with which the Council are faced, and it also appears to be so with other Authorities throughout the country. As a result of severe industrial depression with accompanying financial difficulties between 1921 and the outbreak of war in 1939, it was not possible to proceed with any slum clearance schemes, or to build houses to relieve overcrowding during that period, and therefore, the position is rather acute, as there are such a large number of low standard dwellings in the district. These aged and worn out properties are without modern facilities and conveniences.

Locally, if only by their onerous and exacting experience in dealing with applications for tenancies of new houses, the Council are fully aware of and fully alive to the deplorable circumstances existing, and which have to be endured by many families. It is hoped that the time is not far distant when it will be possible for " Slum Clearance Schemes " etc. to be carried out.

A large amount of repair work was again carried out during 1950 to existing properties, but the remedying of minor defects only touches the fringe of the problem, as they were mostly aged properties without modern facilities and conveniences.

RENTS. From time to time the Council have stressed their concern over the high rents which they are forced to fix for new houses, and which, without doubt, causes genuine hardship for many families.

RENT AND MORTGAGE INTEREST RESTRICTION ACTS, 1920-1939. There were no applications for certificates during the year.

NO HOUSES WERE ERECTED DURING THE YEAR BY PRIVATE ENTERPRISE.

PROSECUTIONS INSTITUTED DURING THE YEAR (4).

<i>Offence.</i>	<i>Result.</i>
(1) Non-compliance with Court Order and recovery of daily penalty	Ordered to pay 21/- costs and 5/6 Court Fees, and £9/10/- recovered at 5/- per day.
(2) do. ...	Ordered to pay 42/- costs and 5/6 Court Fees, and £10 recovered at 5/- per day.
(3) Non-compliance with Court Order	Fined 20/- and 2/6 per day until Order complied with. Also 42/- Costs and 5/6 Court Fees.
(4) Non-compliance with Statutory Notice	Ordered to carry out work within 2 months, and pay 21/- Costs, plus 5/6 Court Fees.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOODS.

MILK. There are ten retail distributors of milk in the area, and with the exception of two local producer distributors, they all receive their supplies of pasteurised or T.T. pasteurised milk in sealed bottles for delivery to consumers. Empty bottles are returned to the wholesale suppliers factories for washing and sterilisation, etc. This method does away with the operation of bottle-washing, storing, filling and sealing in numerous small buildings, where satisfactory hygiene would be difficult to attain, and in some case impossible. During the year, 126 samples were submitted for examination to the Public Health Laboratory. In June, during the warm period, some samples failed to pass the methylene blue test. The matter was taken up with the wholesale supplier concerned, and also with the Public Health Department of the County Borough where the pasteurising plants, etc. were situated.

MEAT CONDEMNED DURING THE YEAR. 8 lbs. pork ; 100 lbs. bacon ; 35 lbs. ham.

NUMBER OF ANIMALS KILLED by farmers, cottagers, etc., during the year : Pigs, 69. All were free from tuberculosis.

The two slaughterhouses were only used occasionally during the year, in order to kill pigs kept by cottagers, etc. Since the outbreak of Great War No. 2, livestock are killed at Government slaughterhouses. The meat for this area, is supplied from Tredegar Slaughterhouse.

PUBLIC HEALTH MEAT REGULATIONS, 1924. These Regulations have been carried out in a satisfactory manner on the whole.

ICE CREAM (HEAT TREATMENT, ETC.) REGULATIONS, 1947, AND SALE OF FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1938. There are ten retailers in the area, and six of these are retailer-producers. Two of them also sell wholesale. All are anxious to comply with the Regulations, and quite a lot of work has been done to premises and the procuring of equipment, etc.

Thirty-seven samples were submitted for examination during the year, and 30 were graded 1 ; 4 graded 2 ; 2 graded 3 and 1 graded 4.

SHOPS, STORES. There has been no cause for complaint as to the protection of meat from contamination. All butcher shops have refrigerators. The importance of personal cleanliness, also the cleanliness of premises, equipment and utensils, was impressed upon food-handlers and leaflets issued.

A number of notices were issued, requesting proper wash-hand basins, together with instantaneous supply of hot water, etc.

FISH-FRYING AND CHIP POTATO SHOPS, ETC. Visits were made and attention given to all appliances used in connection with this trade, respecting cleanliness, etc.

BAKEHOUSES. Limewashing and general cleanliness receives attention.

OTHER FOODS CONDEMNED. 36 lbs. cheese ; $\frac{3}{4}$ lb. butter ; 41 tins meat ; 18 tins milk ; 37 tins vegetables ; 23 tins fish ; 7 tins tomato juice ; 6 jars salad cream ; 25 tins fruit ; 1 jar jam ; 1 pot paste ; 3 \times 8oz. boxes of fruit.

FOOD POISONING OUTBREAKS. No cases notified or heard of locally.

PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

1950—99 Cases (Erysipelas, 1 ; Scarlet Fever, 53 ; Measles, 28 ; Tuberculosis, 14 ; Diphtheria, 2 ; Acute, Poliomyelitis, 1).

1949—183 Cases (Scarlet Fever, 3 ; Measles, 130 ; Tuberculosis, 23 ; Whooping Cough, 1 ; Puerperal Pyrexia, 1 ; Dysentery, 25).

1948—149 Cases (Scarlet Fever, 35 ; Measles, 87 ; Tuberculosis, 17 ; Diphtheria, 2 ; Acute Primary Pneumonia, 1 ; Whooping Cough, 7).

1947—174 Cases (Scarlet Fever, 24 ; Diphtheria, 3 ; Tuberculosis, 15 ; Measles, 120 ; Erysipelas, 1 ; Cerebro Spinal Fever, 2 ; Whooping Cough, 2 ; Acute Primary or Influenzal Pneumonia, 4 ; Ophthalmia Neonatorum, 1 ; Puerperal Pyrexia, 2).

TOTAL NUMBER OF CASES NOTIFIED IN EACH WARD.

Upper Ward	...	...	30 cases.
Middle Ward	..	...	31 cases.
Lower Ward	...	...	29 cases.
Abertysswg Ward	...	...	9 cases.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES (OTHER THAN TUBERCULOSIS) During the Year 1950.

Disease.	Total Cases Notified.	Cases Admitted to Hospital	Total Deaths.
Small Pox	Nil	Nil	Nil
Scarlet Fever	53	Nil	Nil
Diphtheria	2	1	Nil
Enteric Fever (including Paratyphoid) ...	Nil	Nil	Nil
Puerperal Pyrexia	Nil	Nil	Nil
Acute Pneumonia (Primary or Influenzal)	Nil	Nil	Nil
Other diseases generally notifi- able (specify disease) ...			
Cerebro Spinal Fever ...	Nil	Nil	Nil
Erysipelas	1	1	Nil
Ophthalmia Neonatorum ...	Nil	Nil	Nil
Acute Poliomyelitis	1	1	Nil
Dysentery	Nil	Nil	Nil
Whooping Cough	Nil	Nil	Nil
Measles	28	Nil	Nil
Other diseases notifiable locally (specify disease) ...	Nil	Nil	Nil

OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM.

Cases—Nil			Vision Un- impaired.	Vision Impaired.	Total Blindness.	Deaths.
Notified.	Treated.					
	At Home.	In Hos- pital.				
Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil

The Sanitary Inspector visits each house and instructs how to carry out isolation there ; in most cases from the number of occupants and the type of house this is difficult or impossible.

Small Pox—No case. Erysipelas—One case (No case in 1949).

TUBERCULOSIS.

Deaths from Tuberculosis of the respiratory system, 5 ; death rate per 1,000 living, .55 ; deaths from other forms of Tubercular Diseases, Nil ; death rate per 1,000 living, Nil ; death rate from all forms of Tuberculosis, .55. Last year the death rate from Pulmonary Tuberculosis was .76 ; from other Tubercular Diseases, .11 ; and from all forms of Tuberculosis, .87.

New Cases and Mortality during 1950.

The following table shows the age and sex distribution of the notified cases and of the deaths :—

Age Periods.	NEW CASES—14				DEATHS—5			
	Respiratory 13		Non- Respiratory 1		Respiratory 5		Non- Respiratory 0	
	6 M.	7 F.	1 M.	0 F.	3 M.	2 F.	0 M.	0 F.
0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
10	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
15	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
25	1	3	—	—	—	—	—	—
35	4	3	—	—	1	—	—	—
45	—	1	—	—	1	2	—	—
55	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
65	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
and upwards								
Totals	6	7	1	0	3	2	0	0

There were 5 deaths from Respiratory Tuberculosis and no deaths from the non-pulmonary type. All the deaths were of notified cases.

Patients from the district are admitted to the following Institutions :

- (1) Glan Ely Hospital, near Cardiff.
- (2) North Wales Sanatorium, Denbigh.
- (3) Cefn Mabley Hospital, near Cardiff.
- (4) Mardy Hospital, Merthyr Tydfil.
- (5) Gellygaer, Hospital.
- (6) South Wales Sanatorium, Talgarth.
- (7) Energlyn Hospital, Caerphilly.
- (8) Annexe, Chepstow.

PUBLIC HEALTH (PREVENTION OF TUBERCULOSIS) REGULATIONS, 1925.

No action was necessary under these Regulations, which are framed with the view of preventing persons suffering from Tuberculosis occupying themselves in the milk trade.

PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1936, SECTION 172.

Section 172. This Section which enforces the compulsory removal of a patient suffering from tuberculosis and in an infectious state to hospital when there is no proper accommodation at the house, was not made use of.

Tuberculosis. 14 new cases (13 pulmonary and 1 non-pulmonary) were notified during 1950.

As stated earlier in this report, the family doctor sends patients to Chest Specialists in attendance at the Chest Clinics, for opinion, investigation or treatment. When considered necessary, the Chest Physician also recommends admission to Sanatoria or Hospital. For details of Monmouthshire County Council arrangements, etc., please see County Medical Officer's Annual report.

During May, 1950, the Mass Radiography Service visited Rhymney, and was available to the general population.

DETAILS OF MASS RADIOGRAPHIC SURVEY OF RHYMNEY GENERAL POPULATION, MAY, 1950.

TABLE I.

Total number of persons examined (794 males, 343 females)	1137
Normal and abnormal.	
Total number found to be abnormal (108 males, 14 females)	122
	or 10.73%

CLASSIFICATION OF ABNORMAL CASES.

(a) Definite Pulmonary Tuberculosis	Nil.
(b) Needing further observation for Pulmonary Tuberculosis	
(2 males, 3 females)	5 or 0.44%
(c) Other abnormalities of chest (29 males, 11 females)	
	(40 or 3.52%)
Pneumonociosis (all males)	77 or 6.77%

TABLE 2.
(Details of " Other Abnormalities ").

Chronic Bronchitis and Emphysema (10 m., 3 fe. ...	13
Healed Post-Primary P.T. (7 m. 2f.)	9
Acquired Heart Disease (4m. 4f.)	8
Pleural Thickening (3 m.)	3
Bronchiectasis and Atelectasis (2m. 1f.) ATELECTASIS.	3
Pulmonary Fibrosis ... ..(2m.)	2
Bony Abnormality (1m.)	1
Neoplasm (1f.)	1
TOTAL	<hr/> 40 <hr/>

Diphtheria. The need of immunisation was advertised by the Monmouthshire County Council.

Two cases were notified during the year, but there were no deaths. Both children had not been immunised.

Scabies. There are no facilities for the in-patient treatment of cases detected in your district.

Enteric fever. No case.

Pneumonia (acute-influenzal and acute primary). No case notified.

There were four deaths from Broncho-Pneumonia and one death from Lobar Pneumonia.

Encephalitis Lethargica. No case notified.

Ophthalmia Neonatorum. No case notified.

Dysentery. No case notified.

Influenza. No deaths.

Bronchitis. Six deaths.

There is no steam disinfectors in the district, and no facilities for dealing with verminous persons and their belongings. It is hoped that it will be possible in the near future for these services to be provided.

In conclusion, we again wish to thank the Chairman and Members of the Council for the interest shown and support given in Public Health, etc., matters, and to express our appreciation to the Council Staff for their co-operation throughout the year.

We remain, Mr. Chairman and Members,

Yours faithfully,

I. L. R. EVANS,

Medical Officer of Health.

G. R. DAVIES,

Sanitary Inspector, etc.

